

week 27:	making our way through the amazon (wet)
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The Amazon Jungle is full of different things – creatures all different shapes and sizes – beautiful and usual trees and flowers – people?

Games:

1. **Steam Release:** Debugging

Games module: page 66

2. **Relay:** Ants

Games modules: page 37

3. **Active:** Run through the jungle

Cubs are running through the 'jungle' and run into many obstacles and animals! They need to get away from them. The leader can give appropriate commands, and the Cubs carry out a suitable action:

- Jump over logs
- Duck under branches
- High knees through quicksand
- Run from the tiger
- Tip toe past the snake
- Talk to the monkeys (ooh, ooh, aah, aah), etc.

4. **Circle:** Dodge the Anaconda!

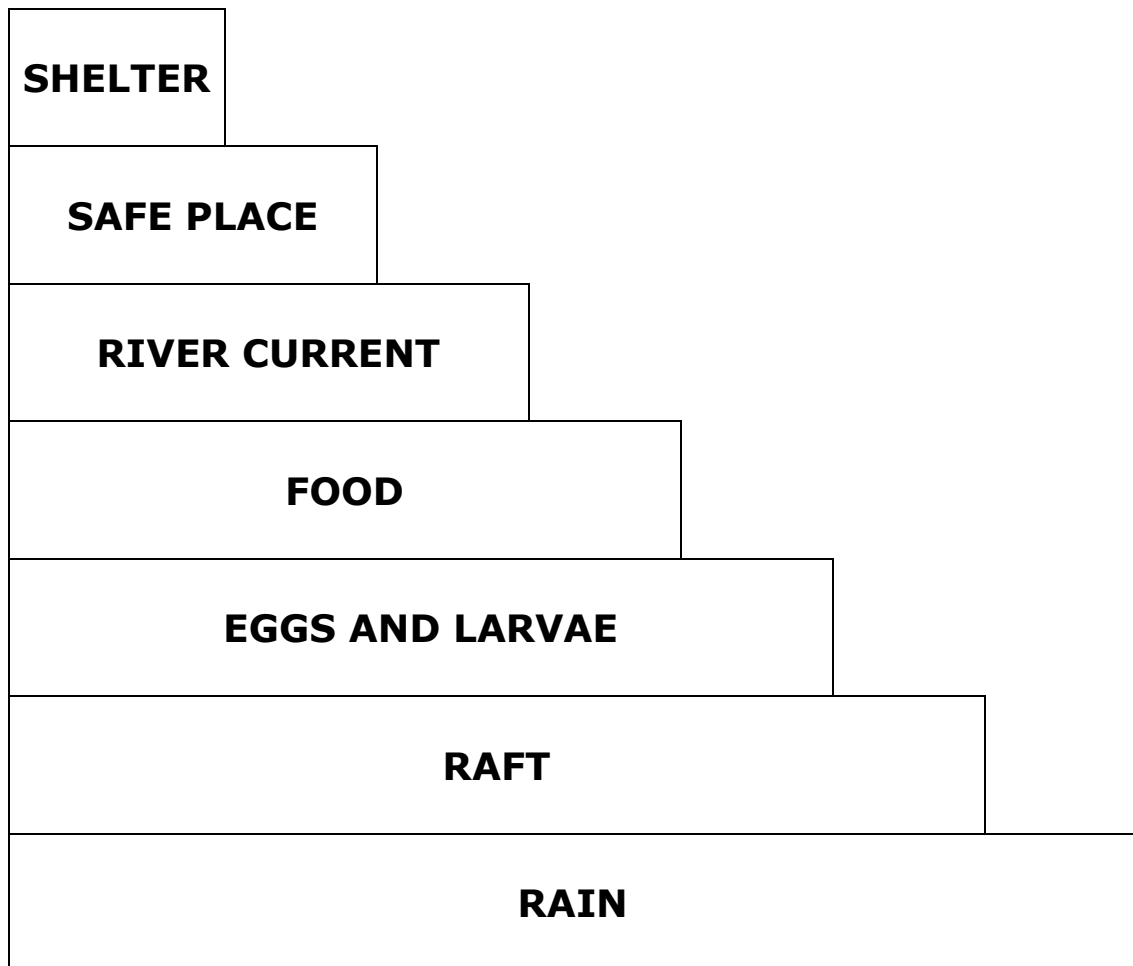
We need to cross the river ... oh no, there's an Anaconda! Quick out of its way ...

Games Module: page 65 (Circle Skipping)

5. **Wide:** Fire Ants
(*Play as vanishing post box but use this scenario*)

When the Amazon River floods the jungle, all the animals are affected. The fire ants have to leave their nests to find a place of safety until they have dry land to build another nest. So, they build a raft out of their bodies by holding onto one another, load their eggs and larvae and food on top, float down on a river current until they find a small dry island or tree to climb up. Once they find shelter they care for their eggs and larvae until the flood subsides. Can you save the fire ants?

The Cubs must collect different slips of paper from the leaders in a specific order. They need to collect the 'rain' slip of paper before the one that says 'raft', once they have the 'raft', they can collect the 'eggs' and larvae', etc. The leaders should stand around a designated area with the slips of paper and the Cubs need to ask the leaders for a particular part of the pyramid. Continue until all the pieces of paper have been collected and the pyramid can be made. Option: stick the slips of paper onto a sheet of paper so that the leaders can see whether the Cubs are collecting them in the correct order.



Sense Training:

1. **Kim's Game:** Pesky Fly (sound)

You will need a large squeegee bottle filled with water and blindfolds. The Cubs sit in a circle with one Cub in the centre blindfolded and with the bottle of water in front of them. On a given command the Cubs in the circle quietly creep forward to try and touch the Cub in the centre. If the Cub in the centre hears any sound they in the direction of the pesky fly. When "shot" that Cub must start again. Any Cub landing (touching) the blindfolded Cub without being sprayed then takes their place and the game starts again.

2. **Kim's Game:** Feel

It rains an awful lot in the Amazon jungle. Have a bucket of water for each Six and put identical items in each bucket. Make sure some items sink and some float. Cover the bucket with a towel. In relay formation the Cubs run up. The Scouter names an item and they must feel for it in the water with one hand. After showing the leader they return it to the bucket.

Yarn:

How the Brazilian beetles got their gorgeous coats

In Brazil the beetles have such beautifully coloured, hard-shelled coats upon their backs that they are often set in pins and necklaces like precious stones. Once upon a time, years and years ago, they had ordinary plain brown coats. This is how it happened that the Brazilian beetle earned a new coat.

One day a little brown beetle was crawling along a wall when a big grey rat ran out of a hole in the wall and looked down scornfully at the little beetle. "O ho!" he said to the beetle, "how slowly you crawl along. You'll never get anywhere in the world. Just look at me and see how fast I can run."

The big grey rat ran to the end of the wall, wheeled around, and came back to the place where the little beetle was slowly crawling along at only a tiny distance from where the rat had left her.

"Don't you wish that you could run like that?" said the big grey rat to the little brown beetle. "You are surely a fast runner," replied the little brown beetle politely. Her mother had taught her always to be polite and had often said to her that a really polite beetle never boasts about her own accomplishments. The little brown beetle never boasted a single boast about the things she could do. She just went on slowly crawling along the wall.

A bright green and gold parrot in the mango tree over the wall had heard the conversation. "How would you like to race with the beetle?" he asked the big grey rat. "I live next door to the tailor bird," he added, "and just to make the race exciting I'll offer a bright coloured coat as a prize to the one who wins the race. You may choose any colour coat you like and I'll have it made to order."

"I'd like a yellow coat with stripes like the tiger's," said the big grey rat, looking over his shoulder at his gaunt grey sides as if he were already admiring his new coat.

"I'd like a beautiful, bright coloured new coat too," said the little brown beetle.

The big grey rat laughed long and loud until his gaunt grey sides were shaking. "Why, you talk just as if you thought you had a chance to win the race," he said, when he could speak.

The bright green and gold parrot set the royal palm tree at the top of the cliff as the goal of the race. He gave the signal to start and then he flew away to the royal palm tree to watch for the end of the race.

The big grey rat ran as fast as he could. Then he thought how very tired he was getting. "What's the use of hurrying?" he said to himself. "The little brown beetle cannot possibly win. If I were racing with somebody who could really run it would be very different." Then he started to run more slowly but every time his heart beat it said, "Hurry up! Hurry up!" The big grey rat decided that it was best to obey the little voice in his heart so he hurried just as fast as he could.

When he reached the royal palm tree at the top of the cliff he could hardly believe his eyes. He thought he must have been having a bad dream. There was the little brown beetle sitting quietly beside the bright green and gold parrot. The big grey rat had never been so surprised in all his life. "How did you ever manage to run fast enough to get here so soon?" he asked the little brown beetle as soon as he could catch his breath.

The little brown beetle drew out the tiny wings from her sides. "Nobody said anything about having to run to win the race," she replied, "so I flew instead."

"I did not know that you could fly," said the big grey rat in a subdued little voice.

"After this," said the bright green and gold parrot, "never judge any one by his looks alone. You

never can tell how often or where you may find concealed wings. You have lost the prize." Until this day, even in Brazil where the flowers, birds, beasts and insects have such gorgeous colouring, the rat wears a plain dull grey coat.

Then the parrot turned to the little brown beetle that was waiting quietly at his side. "What colour do you want your new coat to be?" he asked.

The little brown beetle looked up at the bright green and gold parrot, at the green and gold palm trees above their heads, at the green mangoes with golden flushes on their cheeks lying on the ground under the mango trees, at the golden sunshine upon the distant green hills. "I choose a coat of green and gold," she said.

From that day to this the Brazilian beetle has worn a coat of green with golden lights upon it. For years and years the Brazilian beetles were all very proud to wear green and gold coats like that of the beetle who raced with the rat.

Then, once upon a time, it happened that there was a little beetle that grew discontented with her coat of green and gold. She looked up at the blue sky and out at the blue sea and wished that she had a blue coat instead. She talked about it so much that finally her mother took her to the parrot that lived next to the tailorbird.

"You may change your coat for a blue one," said the parrot, "but if you change you'll have to give up something." "Oh, I'll gladly give up anything if only I may have a blue coat instead of a green and gold one," said the discontented little beetle.

When she received her new coat she thought it was very beautiful. It was a lovely shade of blue and it had silvery white lights upon it like the light of the stars. When she put it on, however, she discovered that it was not hard like the green and gold one. From that day to this the blue beetles' coats have not been hard and firm. That is the reason why the jewelers have difficulty in using them in pins and necklaces like other beetles.

From the moment that the little beetle put on her new blue coat she never grew again. From that day to this the blue beetles have been much smaller than the green and gold ones.

When the Brazilians made their flag they took a green square like the colour of the green beetle's coat. Within this square they placed a gold diamond like the golden lights that play upon the green beetles back. Then, within the diamond, they drew a circle to represent the round earth and they coloured it blue like the coat of the blue beetle. Upon the blue circle they placed silvery white stars like the silvery white lights on the back of the blue beetle. Around the blue circle they drew a band of white, and upon this band they wrote the motto of their country, "*Ordem e Progresso*, order and progress."

We need to look after the Amazon Jungle otherwise it may disappear forever ...

Craft/Activity:

1. Activity: Smog in a Jar (experiment showing how plants help fight air pollution)

For this experiment, collect two large jars, aluminum foil, ice cubes, matches, two small pieces of paper, potting soil and small plants. Fold two pieces of aluminum foil into lids for the jars, place ice cubes on each piece. Rinse the inside of each jar with water. Quickly place a shallow layer of potting soil inside one of the jars and carefully add your small plants. Leave the other jar empty. Light a piece of paper on fire with a match and drop it into the first jar. Cover it with the foil lid. Repeat for the other jar, working as quickly as possible. The smog will sit at the bottom of the jar. Watch to see if the smog disappears in the jar with the plants, which illustrates how plants help clean the air.

2. **Activity:** Freddie the Fish

http://www.texasstateofwater.org/screening/pdf_docs/FreddieTheFish.pdf

You will demonstrate the effects of pollution on fish by reading the story of Freddie the Fish as he travels downstream. To make it interactive, use the Cubs to play the part of Freddie and to pour "pollution" into the water. Tell the Cubs that they need to realise that although Freddie is not traveling down the Amazon, the Amazon is also in danger of getting polluted. Please practice this at home before doing it in the Pack and become familiar with the different pollutants to see how much you need to add to the water to make it effective.

Materials:

Fish bowl or small aquarium, a few rocks and a small twig for the fish bowl, water, stick or rod that reaches across the top of the fish bowl, a fishing lure that looks like a small fish or small plastic fish and string.

Small cups to hold:

- Dirt
- Raisins
- Green liquid – use green food colouring, lime powdered drink mix or powder gelatine mixed in water
- Pancake syrup or soy sauce
- Sand or bits of limestone
- Parts of a Styrofoam cup, paper, a broken plastic spoon, etc.
- Script for "Freddie says" cut apart

Directions: Use a fish bowl or small aquarium with clean water, a few rocks on the bottom and a stick in the water to represent some vegetation. Using a rod or ruler and string, suspend the lure about mid-way down in the water. This is Freddie.

Tell the children that they are about to go on an imaginary journey with Freddie the Fish. Introduce Freddie. You can act as the narrator and talk for Freddie or get the Cubs involved as Freddie.

"Imagine that we're at the beginning of <name your local river or stream>. There are trees all along the banks (a bank is side of the river/stream). The water is cool and clean. This is where Freddie the Fish lives. Freddie has lived in this stretch of the river all his life. But now he is going on a big adventure! He's going to travel downstream!"

	Narrator	Freddie Says (child volunteer)
1	<p>Here he goes! (Wiggle Freddie) As Freddie swims downstream, he comes to a place where people will be building big new houses. Big bulldozers knocked down trees to make way for building.</p> <p><Read Freddie Says> It begins to rain. There are no tree roots to hold the soil in along the river bank and dirt slides down into the water. (Dump soil in into Freddie's jar) Oh no! Freddie! How is Freddie? ("Yuck!")</p>	<p>It's getting sunny and hot. What happened?</p> <p>All the trees are cut down!</p>
2	<p>Freddie swims on down the river. See if you can guess where he is now.</p> <p><Read Freddie Says> (Pour raisins into the water) Where is Freddie? (<i>pasture, ranch or farm</i>) Are these good presents for Freddie?</p>	<p>Look! There are some big, brown animals with horns coming down to visit me! One of them said, "Moo!" Oh, look – he's leaving me some presents!!</p>

<p>Freddie swims farther on down the river. He comes to a new place.</p> <p>3 <Read Freddie Says> (Pour in green liquid) Oh no, Freddie! Where is Freddie? (<i>next to a golf course</i>) Some golf courses put lots of fertilizer on the grass to keep it green. Extra fertilizer runs off into the river, especially when it rains. This hurts our rivers and streams. How is Freddie?</p>	<p>I see a bunch of people hitting a little ball with a stick! Look at that green, green, GREEN grass! Hey, here's a little stream running off of that grass. Oh no! It's sticky green stuff!</p>
<p>Freddie swims beside a house. Someone is changing the oil in his car. Wait – is he pouring the oil down the storm drain along the street?</p> <p>4 <Read Freddie Says> (Pour pancake syrup into Freddie's jar) How is Freddie? That man doesn't know that storm drains go straight into the river! Anything we pour into the street goes straight into our streams and rivers!</p>	<p>Oh no! Oil is coming out of that pipe! The oil is heading right for me! My gills are getting covered in oil!</p>
<p>Poor Freddie! Off he swims.</p> <p>5 <Read Freddie Says> (Pour sand or rock dust into the water) Oh my! All that sand and rock dust is blowing into the water. What do you think of the water Freddie is in now? How is Freddie?</p>	<p>Wow, there are big trucks digging in the dirt over there. What's all that stuff blowing into the water?</p>
<p>Freddie swims past the city park. Some picnickers didn't throw their trash into the garbage can. The wind is blowing it into the river.</p> <p>6 <Read Freddie Says> (Sprinkle parts of a Styrofoam cup, paper, a broken plastic spoon, etc. into the water) How is Freddie?</p>	<p>Ah, look! People are having a picnic. Oh no! What's all this junk in the water? I can – hardly – get – through – all – this – litter! Yuck!</p>

What do you think about the water Freddie is in now? How did it get so dirty? Does this happen in real life? How can we keep the water clean for Freddie and other fish that live in our rivers and streams? If time permits, make a water filter to show how you could possibly undo pollution in the water.

3. **Handcraft:** Balancing Parrot
<http://guidinguk.freesevers.com/parrot.html> - Resize as required

BALANCING PARROTS

- 1) Cut out the parrot and decorate it using bright colours - you can do both sides if you want to.
- 2) Attach a penny to the parrot's tail using sticky tape.
- 3) Try balancing it on a pencil or on the edge of a table



Singing/Play Acting:

1. **Singing:** Froggie

Singing Module: page 26

2. **Playacting:**

Why not try a jungle dance?

Advancement covered:

Silver Wolf:

Our Precious Planet: Find out three things that can cause water pollution and show how you could possibly undo pollution in water (**Activity: Freddie the Fish**)

Gold Wolf:

Our Precious Planet: Find out how plants help fight air pollution and run an experiment to show this. (**Activity: Smog in a Jar experiment**)